Supply orders of Casnub Bogies to small manufacturers

2949. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the litigation by the three big suppliers the stand of the Railway Board before High Court as well as before the Supreme Court was that order of Higher quantity of Casnub Bogies is being placed to small manufacturers pending finalisation of new formula of allocation since the old formula was heavily tilting in favour of big suppliers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Supreme Court did not modify allocation of quantity to small suppliers;

(c) if so, the reasons for which a big manufacturer was allotted highest quantity and the quantity of the smaller manufacturers was reduced this year (1993-94);

(d) whether the formula which was heavily tilting in favour of big suppliers of Casnub bogies has since modified; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir. The allocations of higher quantity to small manufacturers was not made pending finalisation of a new formula but on consideration of sickness of some of the units and other relevant considerations.

(b) Supreme Court did not modify allocation of quantity to small manufacturer on the ground that they did not desire to disturb the allocation at that stage, keeping in view the progress made by these units in manufacturing bogies and left it to railway authorities for making necessary adjustments in the next year's tender.

(c) The allocations for 1993-94 were made on the basis of a revised formula—and after making necessary adjustments for the quantities in terms of Supreme Court judgement.

(d) the formula has since been modified and in the new formula, weightage has also been given to price quoted in addition to the performance, with a view to encourage competition and to safeguard the interest of the exchequer.

(e) Does not arise.

Conversion of Vadodara-Chhota Udepur rail line

2950. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state by when the work of conversion of Vadodara—Chhota Udepur narrow gauge railway line into broad gauge would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): This is not a sanctioned work. As such, question of its completion does not arise.

Vadodara Railway Division

2951. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Vadodara Division is the heaviest amongst all the divisions of the country;

(b) whether the State Government has requested to create a separate division at Ahmedabad/Gandhinagar;

(c) if so, what action has been taken in this regard; and

(d) whether it is a fact that due to severe resource constraint, Railways are not contemplating creation of new division even when State Government has requested to reconsider it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE